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First Meeting of the Task Force on Juvenile Court Jurisdiction Set for August 8, 2013

The first meeting of the Task Force on Juvenile Court Jurisdiction is scheduled for **August 8, from 10 am – noon** at the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention located at 300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105, Baltimore, MD 21286.

The Task Force was established by the Maryland General Assembly this year and is responsible for studying current laws relating to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and reviewing best practices in the court system for handling offenses committed by youth.

In addition, the Task Force must make recommendations regarding whether or not to eliminate the existing offenses that automatically result in adult charges for youth and to restore juvenile court discretion; the benefits of retaining youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court; methods to reduce the number of youth in adult detention centers and prisons; and the long-term fiscal impact of treating youth in the adult criminal system.

The bill creating the Task Force took effect on June 1, 2013 and terminates May 31, 2014; however, the final report and recommendations are due by December 1, 2013. There is additional information on the Task Force on the website of the Maryland General Assembly at:
<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=billpage&stab=02&id=hb0786&tab=subject3&ys=2013RS>

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Task Force on Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

HB 786 of 2013 Session. (b) The Task Force consists of the following members: (1) 1 member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate; (2) 1 member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House; (3) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or designee; (4) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or designee; (5) the Secretary of State Police, or designee; (6) the Maryland Public Defender, or designee; (7) a juvenile court judge, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; and (8) the following members, appointed by the Governor: (i) 1 representative from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; (ii) a Maryland State's Attorney; (iii) a representative of a local correctional facility; (iv) a representative of a local law enforcement agency; (v) a representative from a juvenile justice advocacy group; (vi) a representative from a victims' rights advocacy group; (vii) an ex-offender who was charged as an adult for an offense committed as a juvenile; (viii) a youth services provider; (ix) a mental health provider specializing in adolescent mental health; and (x) a national expert on youth justice issues, or designee. (c) The Governor shall designate the Chair of the Task Force. (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall provide staff for the Task Force. Section 2. This Act shall take effect June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Name	Title	Organization/Affiliation
Tammy Brown, Chair	Executive Director	Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Jamie Raskin	Maryland State Senator	District 20, Montgomery County
Jill Carter	Maryland State Delegate	District 41, Baltimore City
Sam Abed	Secretary	Department of Juvenile Services
Gary Maynard	Secretary	Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services
Colonel Marcus Brown	Superintendent	Maryland State Police
Paul DeWolfe	Maryland Public Defender	Office of the Public Defender
Judge Brett Wilson	Administrative Judge	Dorchester County Circuit Court
Carlotta Woodward	Assistant State's Attorney	Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office
Mary Lou McDonough	Director	Montgomery County Correctional Center
James Green	Director of Government Affairs	Baltimore Police Department
Marion Mattingly	Juvenile Justice Advocate	
Heather Amador	Victim Services Director	Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office
Jabriera Handy	Youth Leader	Community Law in Action, Inc.
Kara Aanenson	Lead Organizer, Just Kids Partnership	Community Law in Action, Inc.
Gayle Jordan-Randolph	Deputy Secretary of Behavioral Health and Disabilities	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Bart Lubow	Director of Juvenile Justice Strategy	Annie E. Casey Foundation